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THE CLAIMS DEFINING THE INVENTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. A support assembly for a vehicle of the type that includes an enclosed load carrying compartment having a roof, said support assembly being adapted to provide support for a person when moving about on said roof, said support assembly including:

a guide that is mountable on said roof;

a base that is adapted to engage said guide and which is capable of movement along said guide while remaining engaged therewith;

a support structure that includes a first portion that is pivotally connected to said base and a second portion or handle that is spaced from said base, and

a lock for selectively locking said support structure in a desired attitude relative to said base.

2. A support assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein said lock includes a lock actuator for selectively engaging and disengaging the lock.

3. A support assembly as claimed in claim 2, wherein said lock actuator is located on said handle.

4. A support assembly as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein said lock is adapted to engage discrete locations on the base and wherein said discrete locations coincide with different attitudes of inclination of said support structure relative to said base.

5. A support assembly as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein there is also provided braking means, mounted on said support assembly, for checking movement of said base along said guide.

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6. A support assembly as claimed in claim 5, wherein said braking means includes a brake actuator for selectively actuating said braking means.

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7. A support assembly as claimed in claim 6, wherein said brake actuator is located on said handle.

8. A vehicle including:

10 an enclosed load carrying compartment having a roof;

a guide that is mountable on said roof;

a base that is adapted to engage said guide and which is capable of movement along said guide while remaining engaged therewith;

15 a support structure that includes a first portion that is pivotally connected to said base and a second portion or handle that is spaced from said base, and a lock for selectively locking said support structure in a desired attitude relative to said base, and wherein
20 use, a person may grasp hold of said handle for support and/or to move said base along said guide while walking on said roof.

9. A vehicle as claimed in claim 8, wherein said lock
25 includes a lock actuator for selectively engaging and disengaging the lock.

10. A vehicle as claimed in claim 9, wherein said lock actuator is located on said handle.

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11. A vehicle as claimed in any one of claims 8 to 10, wherein said lock is adapted to engage discrete locations on the base and wherein said discrete locations coincide

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with different attitudes of inclination of said support structure relative to said base.

5 12. A vehicle as claimed in any one of claims 8 to 11, wherein there is also provided braking means, mounted on said support assembly, for checking movement of said base along said guide.

10 13. A vehicle as claimed in claim 12, wherein said braking means includes a brake actuator for selectively actuating said braking means.

15 14. A vehicle as claimed in claim 13, wherein said brake actuator is located on said handle.

15 15. A support assembly substantially as hereinbefore described in respect of the drawings.

20 16. A vehicle substantially as hereinbefore described in respect of the drawings.

17. In still yet another aspect, this invention relates to a support assembly, said support assembly including:

a guide;

25 a base that is adapted to engage said guide and which is capable of movement along said guide while remaining engaged therewith;

30 a support structure that includes a first portion that is pivotally connected to said base and a second portion or handle that is spaced from said base, and

a lock for selectively locking said support structure in a desired attitude relative to said base.

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18. A support assembly as claimed in claim 17, wherein said lock includes a lock actuator for selectively engaging and disengaging the lock.

5 19. A support assembly as claimed in claim 18, wherein said lock actuator is located on said handle.

10 20. A support assembly as claimed in any one of claims 17 to 19, wherein said lock is adapted to engage discrete locations on the base and wherein said discrete locations coincide with different attitudes of inclination of said support structure relative to said base.

15 21. A support assembly as claimed in any one of claims 17 to 20, wherein there is also provided braking means, mounted on said support assembly, for checking movement of said base along said guide.

20 22. A support assembly as claimed in claim 21, wherein said braking means includes a brake actuator for selectively actuating said braking means.

25 23. A support assembly as claimed in claim 22, wherein said brake actuator is located on said handle.

24. A structure having an elevated support surface that is capable of supporting a person moving about on same, said structure including:

30 a guide that is mountable on the elevated support surface;

a base that is adapted to engage said guide and which is capable of movement along said guide while remaining engaged therewith;

35 a support structure that includes a first portion that is pivotally connected to said base and a second portion or handle that is spaced from said base, and

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a lock for selectively locking said support structure in a desired attitude relative to said base, and wherein use, a person may grasp hold of said handle for support and/or to move said base along said guide while moving about on the elevated support surface.

25. A structure as claimed in claim 24, wherein said lock includes a lock actuator for selectively engaging and disengaging the lock.

26. A structure as claimed in claim 25, wherein said lock actuator is located on said handle.

27. A structure as claimed in any one of claims 24 to 26, wherein said lock is adapted to engage discrete locations on the base and wherein said discrete locations coincide with different attitudes of inclination of said support structure relative to said base.

28. A structure as claimed in any one of claims 24 to 27, wherein there is also provided braking means, mounted on said support assembly, for checking movement of said base along said guide.

29. A structure as claimed in claim 28, wherein said braking means includes a brake actuator for selectively actuating said braking means.

30. A structure as claimed in claim 29, wherein said brake actuator is located on said handle.

31. A structure substantially as hereinbefore described in respect of the drawings.